1: Grigson, Wilfrid Vernon. The Maria Gonds of Bastar. With an Introduction by J.H. Hutton. Reissued in 1949 /first published in 1938/ with a Supplement containing 80 pages of additional matter and 39 illustrations by the author and Verrier Elwin. London: Oxford University Press, 1949.

Pp. xxii, 427; 24 plates; 8 text figures, including 4 maps; Supplement includes pp. 351-427 and 32 end plates.

Yale: Nkd72 137 938Gb

/This excellent ethnography, by a former member of the Indian Civil Service, describes the culture of two subgroups of the widespread Gond peoples, the relatively unacculturated Hill Marias and the more acculturated Bison Horn Marias, both of Bastar State. The book is divided into five main sections: Introductory, giving the geographical, ethnographical and historical setting of the Maria Gonds; Personal Appearance and Characteristics; Domestic Life and Economy, which includes villages, houses and their contents, agriculture, procuring of food and drink, and domestic life; Religion and Magic, which includes the gods, annual religious ceremonies, and the cult of the departed; and Social Organization and Custom, which includes marriage, birth and childhood and death and funeral ceremonies. A number

1: Grigson, Wilfrid Vernon.

of appendices are included on administrative divisions, clan lists, terms of relationship, names, anthropometry, language, and glossary. Throughout the book, the culture of the Hill Marias is described first, then that of the Bison Horn Marias, with indications as to how the two cultures differ. The Supplement contains a comment by Elwin which includes additional information, mainly on Hill Maria culture; notes on the Maria Gonds of Chanda and Drug District by Grigson; and notes by Elwin on the original edition supplementing or correcting Grigson's material. Data on the gotul, the adolescents' and bachelors' dormitory, will be found in category 883. Data on the zamindar, sendhia, and taluq, all administrative divisions, have been filed in category 632. --Analyst/

Field date: 1927-1934, 1940-1941
Analyst: Timothy J. O'Leary

Evaluation: Government Official-5
Processed in 1958

2: Elwin, Verrier. The Muria and their Ghotul. Bombay: Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford University Press, 1947.

Yale: Nkd10 947E

Pp. xxxii, 730; 154 plates; 146 text figures; 9 maps; preface; index; glossary.

[The first part of the book deals with Muria culture generally, as a context in which to set the ghotul. There are descriptive sections on food-getting, kinship, the life-cycle, religion, legend, etc. The second portion of the book deals with the communal dwelling where the young people of the Gond villages live, the ghotul. Inasmuch as this portion constitutes a large block of material, most of which falls within category 883 (Adolescent Activities), it had been asterisked, and the reader is referred to category 116, pp. 269-682. The author describes the buildings, membership, and the activities of the ghotul, including sex, ceremonial participation, dances, games, and other recreation. There is a short appendix by A. N. Mitchell on the language of the Muria, and four other appendices treating ghotul titles, census data, a list of ghotul villages, and a summary of marriage data presented throughout the work. --Analyst]

Field date: 1935-1942 Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Analyst: James Leary Processed in 1958

3: Elwin, Verrier. Maria Murder and Suicide. With a Foreward by W. V. Grigson. Bombay: Published for Man in India by Oxford University Press (Humphrey Milford), 1943.

Pp. xxx, 259; 35 plates; 17 text figures; 21 tables; 2 maps

Yale: Nkd72 I37 943e

/This book, by a British social anthropologist who is one of the foremost experts on tribal India, is an analysis and discussion of Bison Horn Maria murder and suicide based on court records of the cases and discussion with participants, when available, and with relatives and neighbors. The Bison Horn Maria have a very high percentage of murder and suicide when compared to neighboring peoples and to western society. Elwin tries to work out motives in terms of Maria culture - the main ones he discerns being witchcraft and magic, marital infidelity, the desire to eliminate people, property disputes, revenge, fatigue, familial antagonisms, alcohol and lunacy. The book closes with Elwin's recommendations concerning the handling of cases, criminals, and prisons. There are two appendices: a table of 100 Maria homicides; and a table of 50 Maria suicides.--Analyst/

Field date: 1935-1942
Analyst: Timothy J. O'Leary

Evaluation: Ethnologist - 5
Processed in 1958

4: Fürer-Haimendorf, Christoph von. The Raj Gonds of Adilabad. Vol. 3, Bk. 1, in, The Raj Gonds of Adilabad. London: Macmillan, 1948.

Pp. xviii, 449; 90 Illustrations; 4 maps.

Yale: Nkd72 I39 +943f 3/1

Not processed for this file, since they deal with the acculturated Raj Gond; pp. 21-449.

[The introduction to this book, the only part of the work reproduced here, gives a general view of Gond culture. The author, a trained anthropologist and Indian tribal specialist, makes extensive comments on the other works published on the Gond. This section was intended as an introduction to the regional study of non-Bastar Gonds undertaken in the rest of Book 1. Book II covers the historical development of the Gonds of Hyderabad and the central provinces, and deals with the social and economic effects of opening Adilabad district to settlement in the past 100 years. This source was

4: Fürer-Haimendorf, Christoph von.

processed to give the researcher orientation to the various Gond groups since this file in the main covers only the relatively unacculturated Bison Horn, Hill and Maria Gond. --Analyst]

Field date: 1942-1945
Analyst: Leslie L. Clark

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1958